

Minutes of the February Session of the Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate held its February session on Thursday, February 10, 2011, in PSU 313. Chair Rebecca Woodard called the session to order at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Eric Shade served as parliamentarian.

Substitutes: Pauline Nugent for Joe Hughes, MCL; Kevin Evans for Gay Ragan, Assoc. Prof. rep.; and Emily Hollander for Kate Shellenberg, SGA.

Absences: Mike Foster, CGEIP Chair; Dana Frederick, NTT Instruc Rep; Shyang Huang, PA; Keegan Kimbrough, GSC Rep; Cynthia MacGregor, Rules Chair; Rick Martin, CS; Eric Nelson, Grad Council Chair; Sean Newton, PT; Stephanie Norander, CM; James Philpot, Acad Rel Chair; Sharmistha Self, FCC Chair; Teresa Steele, Staff Senate; Wei-Han Su, MU; Rose Utley, NR; and Gwen Walstrand, AR.

Guests: Edward DeLong, LIS; Helen Reid, CHHS; John Catau, Office of the Provost; Margaret Weaver, FSEC/English; John Satzinger, CIS; Etta Madden, English/Gen Ed Task Force; President Cofer; Elizabeth Bradbury, BOG Chair; and Drew Bennett, West Plains Chancellor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 2011 minutes were approved as distributed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Board of Governors Chair Elizabeth Bradbury addressed the Senate and took questions and comments from the Senate floor.
2. Chair Woodard announced the members of the Ad hoc committee for Intellectual Property.
3. The Faculty Concerns Committee complete report will be posted to give Senators time to review the report.
4. Chair-elect Galloway reported on officer nominations. The Nomination Committee will nominate one eligible candidate for chair-elect and one eligible candidate for secretary. Other nominations from the Senate are encouraged. Nominations will be presented next month. To be eligible, by the time they assume office, candidates must have completed at least one year of service in Faculty Senate in the last six years, and must be tenured before the fall 2011 semester begins.
5. The Missouri Association of Faculty Senates will meet in Jefferson City on Tuesday.

REPORT FROM THE TASK FORCE ON GENERAL EDUCATION

Dr. Etta Madden, Chair, presented the report. The [Task Force on General Education](#) has a link available on the Provost website, which lists the committee's charge and work phases, committee membership, and meeting minutes.

REPORT FROM RULES COMMITTEE

Secretary Hail, substituting for Rules Committee Chair Dr. MacGregor, presented three charges and committee recommendations. The recommendations will be voted on by the Faculty Senate in the March meeting.

Charge 1:

Examine every usage of the word "action," or the phrase "senate action," in the Constitution and Bylaws to determine whether it refers to an Action as defined in ART I SEC 6.A, and if so, change it to "Action" or "Senate Action." Also consider replacing the word "action" used in a generic sense with a different term, so as to minimize confusion.

The entire Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty was searched for every occurrence of the word "action" or "actions." This process identified 88 lines of text that required review. If the use of the word "action" was deemed appropriate then no change is recommended. For the remaining instances, the recommended changes can be summarized as:

- Limiting the use of the word "action" as much as possible, except where no other word choice would provide sufficient clarity, unless the word was being used to refer to an Action of Faculty Senate or one of the Councils. Alternate words for "action" are recommended, including words such as "duties," "consideration," or "disposition."
- If the word "action" was referring to a Faculty Senate Action, a College Council Action, or a Graduate Council Action, then capitalization is recommended.
- In some places the wording was unclear so improved language is recommended.

Charge 3:

Examine whether a ranked faculty member in Missouri State University Libraries, who also serves as a "department head" of a service area, can serve as a voting Senator, Rank Representative, or Faculty Senate Officer.

The Bylaws are clear that if a ranked faculty member is a department head, he/she cannot be a senator; except when there are three or fewer ranked faculty members in the department.

The language considered was "should" such an individual be permitted to serve.

The committee determined that the Faculty Bylaws should be clarified on this issue and provide specific language to address those areas where a department is not an academic area. It should also be consistently used throughout the *Constitution and Bylaws*. Changes are needed to lines 275-276 to say "Heads/Chairs/Directors of **academic** departments/schools are not eligible candidates for the position of Chair-Elect and the Secretary of the Faculty." This process also identified 65 additional lines of text that required this change to be consistent. These changes are considered non-substantive by the Rules Committee and therefore do not require a vote of the entire faculty.

Charge 5:

The Graduate Council has requested that the Senate Rules Committee examine whether a Graduate Recruiting Committee should be established as a standing committee of the Graduate Council.

The response is to add this as a fifth standing committee of the Graduate council.

Chair Woodard reminded the Senate we will vote on these three items at the March Senate meeting.

REPORT FROM FACULTY CONCERNS COMMITTEE

The report has been postponed.

REPORT FROM MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY WEST PLAINS CAMPUS

Dr. Drew Bennett, Chancellor, addressed the Senate and reported on the state of the West Plains campus with a synopsis of the present system and report on new developments. Dr. Bennett answered questions from the Senate.

QUESTION AND ANSWER WITH DR. CATAU, OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Dr. Catau answered questions from the Senate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate is Thursday, March 17, at 3:30 p.m. in PSU 315. *(Please note the location change for March).*

Cindy Hail

Secretary of the Faculty